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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

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31 AUG 1983

Major General William E. Odom, USA  
Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence  
Department of the Army  
Washington, D.C. 20310

Dear General Odom:

I am enclosing a copy of the National HUMINT Collection Plan on International Narcotics for your personal review. The Plan is based on the conclusions and recommendations of the narcotics intelligence community and was developed under the general auspices of the National Intelligence Officer for Narcotics. Its essential purpose is to provide broad intelligence collection guidance for the Intelligence Community consistent with my duties and responsibilities to the President and the National Security Council as detailed in Executive Order 12333.

I am especially concerned that the service military attaches bring to bear all of the significant assets which they possess on this important question. The narcotics intelligence issue enjoys the highest priority relative to our national security. It is imperative that all elements of the US Mission cooperate in the country-team collection effort to ensure that all narcotics information is made available within the Mission as well as to headquarters elements in Washington.

As the HUMINT Plan mentions, under Executive Order 12333, section 1.12(d), the foreign intelligence and counterintelligence elements of the Army have explicit responsibilities "to collect information on the foreign aspects of narcotics production and trafficking." In addition the Army Criminal Investigative Division is in an advantageous position to collect on aspects of narcotics trafficking capabilities in the course of their dedicated responsibilities.

I am requesting that the Department of State provide a regular forum for developing and monitoring a comprehensive Mission all-source narcotics intelligence collection strategy and for resolving any coordination problems which might develop. It is imperative that regularly scheduled meetings are held in order to ensure the most effective use of resources and that relevant country team members, [redacted] are aware of each other's respective collection needs and responsibilities. As the HUMINT Plan suggests, the Annual Narcotics Situation

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Report, which all missions are required to submit, should reflect the full narcotics intelligence resources of the Mission. In addition, I would strongly endorse the preparation of periodic mission assessments of narcotics developments on a regular basis.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that it is of the utmost importance to be able to assure responsible members of the Executive and Legislative Branches that the priority the President attaches to the narcotics issue has been communicated directly to both intelligence and non-intelligence elements of the US Government. The attached HUMINT collection study represents a concerted effort by the Intelligence Community to meet this objective. It will require, however, your strong support and active participation for its effective implementation. In this regard, I know I can count on your personal lead.

Sincerely,

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John N. McMahon  
Acting Director

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Enclosure:  
As stated

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